Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
The Brunswick Area Water System
June 21, 2004
PWSID 0100005

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Quality Water Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water sources are the Potomac River and Yourtee Springs in Washington County-part of Harpers Formation Aquifer.

We have a source water protection plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Wayne Dunkley at (301)-834-7671 between the hours of 7 am and 3:30 pm Monday through Friday. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at Brunswick City Hall, 1 West Potomac Street at 7 pm.

A copy of this report can be accessed on The City of Brunswick website www.brunswickmd.gov.

The Brunswick Water System routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st 2003**.** As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - (mandatory language) The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - (mandatory language) The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Potomac River Filter Plant

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
Turbidity Range Average	N	. .04-.53 0.08	ntu	n/a	TT	Soil runoff
Radioactive Contaminants						
Beta/photon emitters	N	3.0	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper (2001)	N	0.33	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (2001)	N	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	1.5	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides						
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	N	.9	ug/L	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	35.9	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Unregulated Contaminants						
Sodium	N	11.4	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	N	101	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
HAA5 (Haloacetic acids)	N	35.9	ppb	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Yourtee Springs
TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
Turbidity Range Average	N	. .12-2.66 .59	ntu	n/a	TT	Soil runoff
Inorganic Contaminants						
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	0.2	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminants						
Sodium	N	1.94	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

Note: Test results are for year 2003 unless otherwise noted; all contaminants do not require annual testing.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

At the City of Brunswick we work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Dunkley,
Assistant Superintendent of Water